

LAST EDITION

THE NEW YORK WORLD

LAST EDITION

**EIGHT PAGES.**

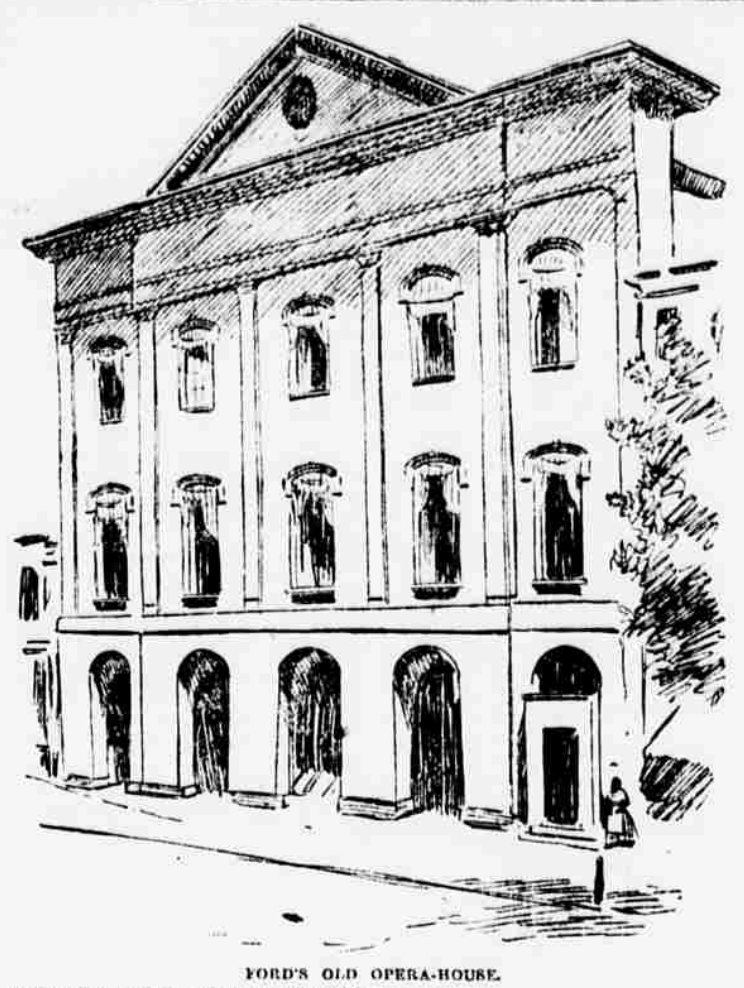
**ONE FATAL CRASH.**

Floors of Ford's Old Opera-House Fall at Washington To-Day.

334 LIVES IN DEADLY PERIL.

Latest Returns Say Twenty Men Are Known to Have Been Killed.

AND FORTY BADLY HURT.



The Building Is That in Which President Lincoln Was Assassinated.

One of those perfect and reason-defying coincidences of which there are so few in history was furnished this morning in the calamity at Washington which occurred there while the funeral of Edwin Booth was being held in this city.

The one memory that shadowed the life of the great actor was made persistent by the preservation of Ford's Theatre at the National capital. It was in this theatre, one April night twenty-eight years ago, that John Wilkes Booth, brother of Edwin, shot President Lincoln, giving him his death-wound. That is the building which fell to-day, and most startling and singular of all the circumstances connected with the catastrophe is that as Edwin Booth's remains were being carried from the Little Church Around the Corner and the tragedian was passing out of the midst of his friends and admirers forever, Ford's Theatre, whose awful shadow had been across the path of the actor during all his later career, should pass out of existence.

Its effacement is practically complete. Ford's Theatre is no more.

Psychical students will make much of this coincidence. Superstitious people will read of it with shuddering dread and refer it to supernatural cause. Sensible people will simply wonder at it.

WASHINGTON, June 9.—At 8.50 o'clock this morning, with dreadful crash, the floors of the old and long-condemned Ford's Opera-House building, the scene of Lincoln's assassination twenty-eight years ago, went down.

They carried a great weight of Government records, of the Army and Pension Departments, the building having been used as the Records Division of the War Department. But, far worse, they carried also a human burden, about 400 Government clerks having been employed at desks in the structure.

The building stood in Tenth street, northwest, between B and F.

First fears were that over a hundred lives had been lost. At 11.25, with the returns still incomplete, the actuality had developed into twenty dead and forty badly injured. All the imperiled clerks were men.

Following are some of the dead and injured:

**SOME OF THE DEAD.**

GEORGE M. ARNOLD, clerk, colored.

JARVIS.

H. S. WOOD.

HOWARD S. MILLER, Ohio.

THE INJURED.

FRED CALVERT.

CHARLES METCALF.

S. D. DEWEY.

WILLIAM LECLEURE.

F. F. TEST.

KUHLER.

PENNINGTON AMES.

CHARLES R. MILLER.

C. F. HATHAWAY.

R. M. PATRICK.

J. A. STEWART.

F. F. STILES.

LOUIS DUBAPY.

G. H. McLAUGHLIN.

J. H. THOMAS.

F. B. SMITH.

A. N. GERAULT.

—SHERRING, of Fort Scott, Kan.

—SHADLOTT, of Missouri, a colored man, dangerously.

**FORD'S OLD OPERA-HOUSE.**

Policeman PODY, badly injured after the accident.

The building had been condemned as unsafe and unsuitable for the purpose for which it was occupied for some time, but sentiment prevented its being pulled down.

For a long time past, whenever a heavy load wagon had gone by, the building seemed to sway backward and forward, as the clerks describe the sensation.

When the first rumbling warning of the approaching collapse of this morning came, the clerks on the third floor, to the number of eighty or a hundred, rushed to the windows and jumped for the roof of a small building adjoining on the northwest side. Many of them escaped in this way.

The reports of the disaster state that the first floor fell first, and that the other floors followed, the walls being so shaken and weakened as to be incapable of sustaining them.

**JUMPED TO HIS DEATH.**

George M. Arnold, a colored clerk appointed from Virginia, was seen at a third-story window. He was warned not to jump, but despite the protestations of numbers of people, he climbed out, and lowering himself from the sill, let go.

He fell upon a covering at a lower door and slid off into the cobble-stoned alley, striking on his head, instantly killing him. His head was mashed to a jelly, and the cobbles for a distance of several yards were bespattered with blood.

**A HERO IN BLACK.**

One of the bravest and most daring incidents connected with the calamity was performed by a colored boy nineteen or twenty years of age named Russell Lockwood.

As soon as the floors collapsed and the dust cleared away, realizing the danger of those at the rear windows, who were wildly climbing out and calling for aid, he climbed up a large telegraph pole as high as the third story, and landed a ladder to the pole, putting the other end in the window. By this means ten or fifteen people were assisted down the ladder in safety.

**Assistant Secretary Grant On Hand.**

Assistant Secretary Grant was one of the first officials to visit the scene of the disaster, and immediately gave orders by telephone and mounted messengers to the officers of the Department to render all possible aid.

Gen. Grant said to a reporter, speaking under pressure of great emotion: "I am appalled at the magnitude of the disaster. It is impossible for me to say anything as to the cause of the accident, for I know nothing of the condition of the building."

**Cause of the Accident.**

In other quarters it is charged that the final collapsing impulse was given to the weak old structure through the work of excavation which was being carried on preliminary to the establishment of an electric light plant.

One of the workmen on the plant, a colored man, who was employed in excavating the cellar, and who escaped with only slight cuts, says: "I told them yesterday that the archway would fall, for every time any one walked over the floor it would bend."

"I tell you, I was scared, and got out just as quick as I could. There were twenty men at work with me. 'Dood I don't know what became of them.'"

This explanation of the cause of the accident is the only one advanced, but it seems somewhat strange, in view of the fact that the top floor gave way first, and the weight of falling timber and furniture carried the second and first floors with it. Fortunately only the forward half of the floors gave way, the outer ends of the floors and the rear part of the structure remaining. The walls did not fall.

**Soldiers in the Scene.**

The news of the terrible disaster flew fast and crowds of people began hurrying to the scene.

Realizing the need of clear working space for the firemen, who were quickly summoned, and for the various corps of rescuers, Gen. Schofield ordered two troops of cavalry from Fort Myer, just across the river, and two companies of infantry from the arsenal, to the scene of the disaster, to keep the crowds back.

The Secretary of the Navy ordered out all the naval medical officers stationed here, and also opened the Naval Hospital to receive the injured. The Commandant at the Navy-Yard was ordered to render all assistance in his power.

All the ambulances were ordered to the place and were kept busy removing the dead to the morgue and the injured to the hospitals. The injuries, from the very nature of the accident, are of the severest character, crushed and broken limbs and internal injuries prevailing.

**STORIES OF THOSE WHO ESCAPED.**

Among those who escaped from the theatre by jumping was Clerk James M. Stewart, who leaped from a second-story window. He was in the Surgeon-General's office.

Mr. Stewart said there was a snapping noise, followed by a tremendous crashing, as the third floor came down.

He turned to see if he could render assistance to any one, and saw the floor going from under him. He had barely time to jump.

Uffe Lowe, who was on the first floor, heard the crash and started to run, but was hit badly cut in the head. He hid himself out of the wreck with an iron box.

T. S. Lowry and C. A. Huper were both at work on the second floor, and told of the suddenness with which, after the crash, they found themselves buried in debris. Both struggled out, badly cut and bruised.

In less than an hour after, about twenty-five people had been taken out, and every few minutes thereafter some still form would be borne on a stretcher from the building. Police and army ambulances, cabs, carriages and wheelchairs of every description were pressed into service for carrying away the dead and injured. Scores of physicians volunteered their services.

The Commissioners of the District took possession of the building, and vicinity in person, and helped direct the police and rescuers.

**THE NEW WARD LINES.**

Brooklyn Supervisors Complete the New Apportionment.

All Republican Wards Are Given Larger Population.

Figures and Boundary Lines as Submitted To-Day.

The Committee of the Board of Supervisors in Brooklyn, appointed to re-apportion the Eighteenth Assembly District in Kings County, in obedience to the writ of mandamus obtained by the Republicans through a decision of the Court of Appeals, reported at a special meeting of the Supervisors to-day.

The second apportionment of the county differs from the first inasmuch that the population in all the districts has been kept equal as near as practicable, the advantage leaning a little towards the party in power.

In the first apportionment the First District, represented by a Democrat, had a population of 32,000, and the Fifth District, represented by the only Republican, had a population of 122,000.

In the apportionment offered to-day the First District is given a population of 49,197, and the Fifth a population of 112,523.

In making the second apportionment the Committee have shifted the ward lines in such a way that the Republicans claim it will confuse voters in locating the polls at which to cast their vote.

There was some question as to the power of the Committee in taking liberties with the ward boundaries, but in the opinion of Lawyer Jesse Johnson, acting for the Republicans, they had this right. The districts by population and boundaries are as follows:

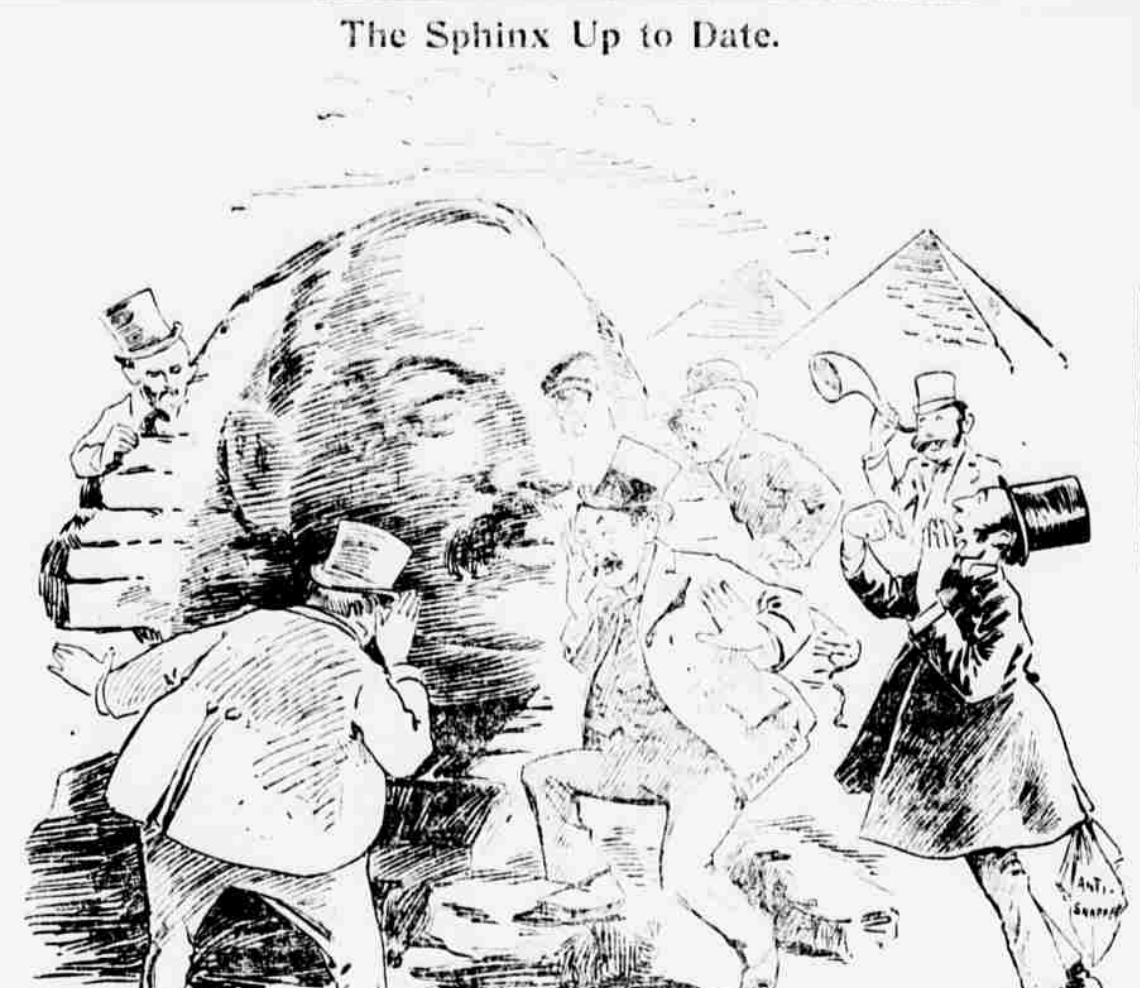
First District—Population 49,197, bounded by East River, Bridge street, Fulton, Court square and Atlantic avenue.

Second District—Population 32,075, bounded by Fulton, Court square, Atlantic avenue, Fulton street, East River, Bridge street, Fulton, Court square and Atlantic avenue.

Third District—Population 32,075, bounded by Fulton, Court square, Atlantic avenue, Fulton street, East River, Bridge street, Fulton, Court square and Atlantic avenue.

Fourth District—Population 32,075, bounded by Fulton, Court square, Atlantic avenue, Fulton street, East River, Bridge street, Fulton, Court square and Atlantic avenue.

Fifth District—Population 122,523, bounded by Fulton, Court square, Atlantic avenue, Fulton street, East River, Bridge street, Fulton, Court square and Atlantic avenue.



He Would Relieve a Painful Anxiety by Naming the Collector of This Port.

**DESPERATE ESCAPE.**

Burglar John Meyer Breaks Out of the Tombs.

Pieces of His Bedstead and Its Coverings His Only Aids.

First of All the Criminals to Accomplish Such a Feat.

It was learned this morning that John Meyer, a prisoner confined in the Tombs awaiting sentence on conviction of burglary, had made his escape between 8.50 and 9.20 o'clock last night by digging through the walls of his cell and scaling the outer wall. He has not yet been recaptured.

Meyer was confined in cell 142 on the fourth or top tier in the old prison. There is no window except in the grated door, which opens into the corridor.

There is, however, a ventilator about four inches high by sixteen in length, which opens into the yard between the Elm street wall and the prison building. It is a frame work of half-inch iron, and extended about eight inches into the wall, which is nearly four feet thick and principally heavy stone blocks laid in cement.

Through this excellent piece of masonry the desperate prisoner dug his way out to freedom, thus gaining the notoriety of being the first in the history of the celebrated prison to break through its walls.

What renders the escape the more remarkable is the crude instruments the criminal used in the accomplishment of what even many a convict, the desperate Wagon maker, who was executed for the murder of Beely Garity, found to be a hopeless task even with a perfect tool.

The tools used by Meyer consisted of three pieces of iron that had been wrung from the iron framework of his bedstead. They were the braces between the legs and did not even afford the advantage of a sharp edge, being round and only about five-eighths of an inch in diameter.

An old tin spoon, that was found in the cell is also supposed to have been used in scraping out the cement, while the prying was done with the imprudent crowbars.

The hole made was large enough to admit the body of a man of 250 pounds.

The task must have required at least three weeks, and in view of the heavy pieces of stone, one of which was thirty-two inches long by at least fourteen inches in width, and thickness and weighed over 200 pounds it seems remarkable that neither the day or night keeper heard any suspicious noises.

The large piece was thrust away in a corner where it could not be seen from the corridor and the other pieces and planer were concealed in the corner under the bed.

The mattresses and bed clothing had been torn in shreds and wadded into ropes, and the frame of the bed, with canvas head of slats, was pulled in front of the hole, so that the watchman in making his rounds might not have his attention attracted by the light which it admitted.

Meyer must have been in wait until yesterday night, passed by his cell and then lowered himself to the ground.

He brought with him another rope and a piece of iron, which he doubtless intended to use as a bugden should any one stand in the way of his escape.

This piece of iron was found this morning on the Leonard street avenue inside of the wall, just outside of Matron McKee's office window, in the female prison.

**THE BORDENS' AXES.**

Witness Fleet's Story of Their Discovery in the Cellar.

One Had a Red Spot on the Blade and Had Been Washed.

Police Capt. Harrington's Interview with Lizzie Borden.

NEW BEDFORD, Mass., June 9.—About one-half of the spectators in the court-house this morning were females. So persistent have they become in their attempts to get into the court-room that a barrier of stout boards has been built across two trees at the entrance so that only one person may pass in at a time.

Miss Borden remarked to Deputy Sheriff Kirby, one of her guards in the dock, as she glanced about and saw the swarm, that in some of the houses in the city the housework must be neglected.

Miss Borden was in her seat at 8.45 this morning, and her counsel were on hand about the same time. Lizzie conversed with ex-Gov. Robinson until Court opened, and appeared very much in earnest about something.

Miss Borden this morning wore a sapphire blue court-dress, she did not watch the testimony carefully, but was much interested in Mr. Adams's examination of previous testimony and the inspection of several law-books.

One of the things talked about among spectators this morning was the bloody and partly burned handkerchief produced yesterday, said to be the one Mrs. Borden wore about her head while sweeping, and which witnesses saw on the floor near the dead body. It is believed an effort is to be made to connect this with the charred parcel in the stove referred to in the prosecution's opening.

The first witness called this morning was Assistant Marshal Fleet, and his cross-examination by ex-Gov. Robinson was resumed.

He said it was a fact that he arrived at the Borden house before 12 o'clock. "I don't know," he said, "whether Allen was there before that or not; when I went there first I went in the house by the back door; looked in all the rooms downstairs, upstairs, into Mrs. Borden's room, or the room where she was lying, and looked into the closets; then went to Lizzie's room; the door was closed, but I don't know whether it was locked or not; I had my first talk with Lizzie there; no officer was present."

"I went from that room down stairs; then I went up to Mr. Borden's room; it was locked; then up stairs and to Lizzie's room; it was not locked; then I tried the other attic room, and found it was locked; then I went to the cellar and found Officers Mullaly and Devine in the cellar; I think this was the time I found them there; it might have been another."

Mullaly had some axes on the floor of the wash-room, two of them and two hatchets; I don't know where they came from; I was told by Mullaly afterwards, that the hatchets were taken from the middle cellar, on the south side, the hatchets, I think, came from the back part of the cellar, one from the chopping block, the furnace was in the passage way, further west towards the front of the house; those hatchets were found near the chimney in the same box which the broken handled hatchet was found.

**HE HAD A HATCHET.**

"In the middle room there was a stick pile of ashes near the chimney and near the box where the hatchets were found. They were coal ashes, I should say. I saw another pile, I think, near the furnace. I put the chiseled hatchet in the cellar room under the stairs, behind some boxes and a keg."

"I went out into the yard after I came downstairs and then up in the barn. I talked with Mr. Morse in the yard at that time, and then went into the house the second time. I went up stairs, and then it was I had the interview with Lizzie in her room. That was when Dr. Bowen was there."

"I afterwards searched the clothes closet; then went down stairs and was given the key to Mrs. Borden's room by Lizzie; then I went into the attic; I could not say as to the rooms being locked then; the storeroom, on the west end of the house, was locked; I can't recollect whether Bridget's room was locked."

"I searched all the rooms; we did look in the trunk; it was locked, and we asked Bridget to unlock it; we just looked in, but did not disturb anything there; we looked into everything we could look into, but not very closely; there was some clothing in one of the rooms, but we didn't take it down; I didn't discover any blood on Bridget's dresses; I did not look closely, and I wouldn't say to-day there was or there was not blood on them."

**Q.—What did you really look at those dresses for?**

**A.—**For blood, or anything else.

**Q.—And yet you didn't see anything at**

**OPERATOR NESBITT ARRESTED.**

May Reveal the Connection of Telegraph Companies with Peol. Rooms.

NEWARK, N. J., June 9.—J. Nesbitt, of 111 Vesey street, was arrested late last night on a warrant from Hudson County. Nesbitt is a well-known figure in the city, and has been employed by the Western Union Telegraph Company for three years.

The rule of the Company has been that the peol-rooms must pay the rent for the leased wires every day, the money being handed to the operator at the close of business. The Company has charged Nesbitt with having received some of this money and failing to turn it over to the local manager. Nesbitt denies the charge. The operator here is that Nesbitt will now reveal the connection of the telegraph company with the peol-rooms.

**FIGHT IN THE PRINTER'S RETREAT.**

Justice Jones, in the Tombs Court, today ruled that a fight between a bartender and a printer, which took place last night in the Printer's Retreat, 32 Park Row, was to be held in the list of a fight. The men had been having a beer for some time, and named Finney, who wanted a scotch or beer for nothing.

**WIFE KICKS "RIVERIDE" FOUNTAIN** and gets a glass of the sweet soda in the city. The fountain is the purest and best in the United States. KICKS, 234 St. and 4th Ave.

**HAD FIVE BANKS, YET FAILED.**

And this Chicagoan's Assets Are Only \$50,000.

CHICAGO, June 9.—Joseph Higgins, prince banker of St. Washington, and an expert in the art of making money, failed last night. His assets are only \$50,000.

Higgins was a native of St. Louis, and had been in Chicago for many years. He had five banks, and had failed in each of them. He was a man of great energy and ambition, and had made a fortune in the banking business.

He had been in Chicago for many years, and had been a member of the Chicago Board of Trade. He had been a partner in the Chicago Bank, and had been a member of the Chicago Board of Directors.

He had been a man of great energy and ambition, and had made a fortune in the banking business. He had been a partner in the Chicago Bank, and had been a member of the Chicago Board of Directors.

**GROW FAT**

And improve their appearance. THINNESS DOES NOT IMPROVE THE APPEARANCE. THE ONLY WAY TO IMPROVE THE APPEARANCE IS TO GROW FAT. THE ONLY WAY TO GROW FAT IS TO TAKE THE ONLY FAT-PRODUCING MEDICINE IN THE WORLD. THE ONLY FAT-PRODUCING MEDICINE IN THE WORLD IS THE ONLY FAT-PRODUCING MEDICINE IN THE WORLD.

**SIX NEW CREDIT SYSTEMS.**

Including a new money loan system, at James M. McKee's office window, in the female prison.

**SILVER SOUVENIRS**

And a handsome set of Mackintosh hat with every day and evening. LONDON & LIVERPOOL. LONDON & LIVERPOOL. LONDON & LIVERPOOL.

**WILL EXPRESS GRATITUDE.**

WESTCHESTER, June 9.—The people of the town of Westchester will show their gratitude to Mr. Collins B. Huntington for his gift of an endowed free library by holding a public subscription this evening and tomorrow afternoon in the library hall. The subscription will be held in the library hall, and the proceeds will be used to purchase books for the library.

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